The People's Korea

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President Kim Il Sung Urges Nation To Finish 2nd Seven-Year Plan and Prepare for Enemies' Aggression

President Kim Il Sung urged the nation to finish the tasks of the Second Seven-Year Plan and make remarkable progress in achieving the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s this year.

He said:

"This year we should accelerate socialist economic construction vigorously to gain the targets of the second Seven-Year Plan with success and make remarkable progress in achieving the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s."

In his nationally televised New Year address, President Kim Il Sung also said: "The entire people should keep a sharp eye on the enemies' reckless manoeuvres for aggression and vicious provocations which are increasingly pronounced, and prepare themselves fully to seize the initiative in coping with any contingency."

The President defined the following as the central tasks of socialist economic construction this year:

1) to step up capital construction forcefully on the five district fronts;

2) to operate all factories and enterprises at full capacity;

3) to improve the people's standard of living considerably.

Here are main points of his annual New Year address:

– The coal-mining industry is a sector on which we must concentrate our efforts in socialist economic construction this year. The coal-mining industry should reconstruct and expand in a big way the coal mines in the Anju, Sunchon, Kangdong and northern districts, with large deposits, keep stripping and heading excavation going ahead and effect in every way comprehensive mechanization of pit operations at all coal mines to increase the coal output markedly.

– To boost the output of electricity quickly is one of the important tasks in economic construction this year. The electric power industry should check and repair opportunity the equipment of the existing power plants to operate it at full capacity and raise its efficiency to generate electricity as much as possible, while at the same time striving to create additional generating capacity.

– Producing and supplying iron and steel smoothly is an urgent demand for the development of the national economy today. The metallurgical industry should build up the bases of Juche-oriented iron and steel production and actively introduce new techniques and thus further develop the method of iron production using domestic fuel.

– The workers of the construction industry are faced with the heavy tasks of ensuring success in construction on the five district fronts and energetically hastening the construction of Nampo Lock Gate, the reclamation of tideland and other magnificent projects to transform nature.

– In railway transport they should increase the production of locomotives and freight cars, reinforce railways and speed up railway electrification and construction of new railways to increase hauling capacity quickly, and should improve the organization and direction of transport.

– Our Party put forward the policy of radically improving the people's standard of living in the next one year or two. If we are to raise the people's standard of living quickly, we should effect a great revolution in light industry.

– Owing to the undisguised imperialist manoeuvres for aggression and war, the international situation is becoming extremely acute and the danger of a new world war increasing with each passing day. In order to push ahead powerfully with our revolution under the present complicated, tense situation, we must hold high the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea and further consolidate our revolutionary ranks politically and ideologically. The prevailing situation demands that we should further sharpen revolutionary vigilance and keep ourselves alert and ready at all times. The entire people should keep a sharp eye on the enemies' reckless manoeuvres for aggression and vicious provocations which are increasingly pronounced, and prepare themselves fully to seize the initiative in coping with any contingency.

– This year all Koreans in the north, south and abroad should make new progress in the cause of national reunification by resolutely combatting the manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges for "two Koreas" and a new war, united closely under the banner of national reunification, transcending the differences in ideologies, systems, party affiliations and political views.

President Kim Il Sung made a new year address on January 1, greeting the new year 1984.

Follow the full text of the new year address:

New Year Address

Comrades,

Having adorned another brilliant year of creation and construction in the history of our prospering country, we are greeting a hopeful new year 1984.

I would like to offer my warm congratulations to our heroic working class, cooperative farmers, the valiant officers and men of our People's Army and People's Security Forces, working intellectuals, and all the rest of the people who have started on the new year march with fresh hopes and ambitions and with great confidence.

My militant new year greetings go to the south Korean revolutionaries, youths and students, patriotic democrats, and people from all walks of life who are staunchly fighting for national sovereignty, democracy and the country's reunification, without yielding to brutal repression and persecution by the U.S. imperialists and the military fascists.

I extend my new greetings also to the 700,000 Korean compatriots in Japan and all our brothers in foreign lands who are vigorously struggling for the prosperity of our nation and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, with a high sense of the pride and honour of being the overseas citizens of Juche Korea.

The year 1983 was a meaningful year when a great advance was made in our people's struggle to build socialism.

Last year, we had the grand celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, amidst the high political enthusiasm of all our people and the fervent congratulations and best wishes from the world's people. Through these celebrations, we demonstrated the unconquerable strength of our people who are united closely behind the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic as well as the genuine superiority of our socialist system, and further increased the might of our Republic. Energetic politico-ideological work was done to meet the actual requirements of the developing revolution. This resulted in a new change in the ideological and spiritual qualities of the working people and in their work attitude, and the whole society was pervaded with a revolutionary spirit of striving with all devotion for the Party and the revolution and for the country and the people.

Last year witnessed a great upswing on all fronts of socialist economic construction, effected by our heroic working class and all other working people, who are boundlessly loyal to the Party and the revolution, through a powerful movement to create the "speed of the 80s", a new march speed of socialist construction. Strenuous efforts were made to harness nature and build edifices under a far-sighted plan in all parts of the country including the construction sites of Ore-Dressing Plant No. 3 of the Komdok General Mining Enterprise and the Nampo Lock Gate and the tideland reclamation sites, and the work of putting the national economy on a Juche-oriented, modern and scientific basis made successful progress. Thanks to the working people's devoted labour efforts, the productive capacity of industry, agriculture and many other sectors of the national economy greatly increased, production grew at a high rate, and the foundations of the socialist, independent national economy strenghthened.

I would like to offer my warm thanks to all the people including workers, farmers, soldiers and working intellectuals for the bril-

(Continued on page 2)

Norodom Sihanouk In Pyongyang

His Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, who arrived in Pyongyang on Dec. 29, 1983 was received by President Kim Il Sung on Dec. 31.

President Norodom Sihanouk congratulated the Korean leader on the New Year and presented a basket of flowers to him, wishing him a long life in good health.

That day President Kim Il Sung arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang in honour of Mr. Sihanouk.

In his banquet speech, President Kim Il Sung noted that in 1983 the Samdech visited many countries of Asia, Africa and Europe, attended the 38th Session of the U.N. General Assembly, conducting wide-range external activities.

"During his recent foreign tour, too, the Samdech highly estimated our independent policy and successful socialist construction wherever he went and conducted a lot of work in support of the struggle of our people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country," said the DPRK President.

He said that he hoped that this time the Samdech would relieve himself of the fatigue of his long journey, pleasantly spending the New Year's day with the Korean people and have a good rest to wage more positive activities in good health in the New Year.

President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said:

"Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great leader, are the most distinguished hero in the glorious history of Korea and the Third World spanning thousands of years, and enjoy the highest authority and prestige in the world.

"Your Excellency Kim Il Sung, the great leader, enjoys boundless respect of all peoples of the world, for you showed the most excellent examples – patriotism, devoted service for the people, heroism, military wisdom, sagacity in the outstanding and effective activities for state building and modern development of the country and in political activities and activities to thoroughly defend the idea of justice and freedom, peace and progress and invariable absolute support to the peoples fighting for freedom and national liberation. The so just immortal Juche idea and the idea of *chajusong* greatly encourage the activities of all peoples of the world."

Team Spirit '84: 207,000 Troops

This year's Team Spirit exercise will include about 207,000 troops, 60,050 of them American, the United States and south Korea announced on Dec. 29, 1983.

The joint exercise, which will kick off about Feb. 1, will be the ninth such exercise since 1976.

Team Spirit 84 will be a prime test of the U.S. military's current combat doctrine known as Airland Battle.

Another first for Team Spirit 84 will be use of the Army's Blackhawk helicopter, which is replacing the "Huey," used since Vietnam.

In the past, the DPRK has strongly protested to the Americans that the annual exercise is a preparation for war with Pyongyang.

U.S. Air Force Col. Rallin Aars, spokesman for the "U.S.-ROK Combined Forces Command," told a news conference that one of the objectives of Team Spirit 84 will be to test the ability of American forces outside Korea to deploy rapidly to the peninsula and, once in Korea, to move quickly to where they are needed.

The troops traveling to south Korea will include an Army division headquarters element and an infantry brigade task force; a brigade headquarters and an infantry task force; and a Seventh Fleet task force consisting of an aircraft carrier battle group, a surface action group, an amphibious task force, two amphibious squadrons, one Marine air-ground task force, and other vessels.

Military experts here say that Team Spirit 84 will lead the already aggravated situation on the Korean Peninsula into a brink of war.

Presidential New Year Address

(Continued from page 1)

liant exploits they performed in socialist construction last year through a vigorous struggle, upholding the Party policies.

Through energetic external activities last year, our Party and the Government of the Republic developed to a higher stage the relations of friendship and cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries, non-aligned nations and many other countries in the world, and further consolidated our foreign relations and contributed greatly to accelerating the cause of global independence.

On the occasion of the new year, I extend my warm felicitations and greeting to the progressive people and our friends around the world who are giving active support and encouragement to our people in their revolutionary cause.

Comrades,

The year 1984 is the last year in the fulfilment of the Second Seven-Year Plan. This year we have an honourable task of effecting a new turn in socialist economic construction.

This year we should accelerate socialist economic construction vigorously to gain the targets of the Second Seven-Year Plan with success and make remarkable progress in achieving the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s.

The central tasks of socialist economic construction this year are to step up capital construction forcefully on the five district fronts, to operate all factories and enterprises at full capacity and to increase the people's standard of living considerably. This year we should struggle energetically on the five fronts of construction in Sunchon, Anju, Chongjin, Nampo and Hamhung districts and thus open up a definite perspective for reaching the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction ahead of schedule. We should also run factories and enterprises at full capacity in all sectors of the national economy to increase production at a high rate, radically raise the people's standard of living and thus give full play to the advantages of the socialist system.

The coal-mining industry is a sector on which we must concentrate our efforts in socialist economic construction this year.

Coal is the food of our Juche industry, and a rapid increase in the coal output means a breakthrough in the successful fulfilment of all economic tasks. Producing and supplying an ample amount of coal is the way to put production on a normal basis in all sectors of the national economy and overfulfil this year's national economic plan.

Under the slogan, "Increase the coal output, first, second, third," this year we should concentrate on the coal-mining industry and bring about a new upsurge in coal production.

The coal-mining industry should reconstruct and expand in a big way the coal mines in the Anju, Sunchon, Kangdong and northern districts, with large deposits, keep stripping and heading excavation going ahead and effect in every way comprehensive mechanization of pit operations at all coal mines to increase the coal output markedly. State and economic bodies should organize economic work on the principle of subordinating everything to coal production, and the whole country should give active material, technical and manpower support to coal mines. All sectors of the national economy should preferentially supply the coal mines with the equipment and materials required for their production. Party organizations and People's Government bodies at all levels should direct profound attention to improving the welfare service for the coal miners.

To boost the output of electricity quickly is one of the important tasks in economic construction this year. The electric power industry should check and repair opportunely the equipment of the existing power plants to operate it at full capacity and raise its efficiency to generate electricity as much as possible, while at the same time striving to create additional generating capacity. Projects to expand the Pukchang and Pyongyang Thermal Power Stations should be stepped up and finished quickly, and the construction of new power stations including the Wiwon and Taechon Hydroelectric Power Stations and the Chongjin and Anju Thermal Power Stations should be pushed forward vigorously.

Producing and supplying iron and steel smoothly is an urgent demand for the development of the national economy today. The metallurgical industry should build up the bases of Juche-oriented iron and steel production and actively introduce new techniques and thus further develop the method of iron production using domestic fuel. We should propel powerfully the projects to expand the Kim Chaek Iron Works and the Kangson Steel Complex and build new, modern metal-processing plants so that various kinds and sizes of iron and steel and metal goods of the second-stage processing will be turned out in larger quantities to meet the increasing demand of the national economy.

We should rapidly increase the production of non-ferrous metals and develop their processing. We should well maintain and beef up smelteries and raise the extraction rate in smelting, thereby actively boosting the output of non-ferrous metals in the existing smelteries, and speed up the construction of the Tanchon smeltery to finish it off quickly. We should build up the processing centre of non-ferrous metals and successfully solve scientific and technological problems arising in their processing to increase the output of high-quality processed goods.

For a rapid increase in the production of iron and steel and non-ferrous metals, the workers in the mining industry should make a good job. They should adequately supply iron ores and various non-ferrous metal ores to iron works, steel plants and smelteries, by raising a vigorous struggle to increase ore production.

This year the workers of the construction industry are faced with the heavy tasks of ensuring success in construction on the five district fronts and energetically hastening the construction of Nampo Lock Gate, the reclamation of tideland and other magnificent projects to transform nature. In this sector they should not disperse the building forces but concentrate them on the well-defined order of priority in construction, raise the level of the mechanization of building operations and boldly introduce advanced building methods to improve the quality of construction and put the structures into operation ahead of schedule. The machine industry and the building materials industry should responsibly supply the building machines and ordered equipment, cement and other building materials necessary for projects on the five fronts and for the magnificent projects for nature transformation and all other sectors of the national economy should give active support to these projects.

In order to ensure success in the tough struggle for socialist economic construction this year, transport, which is called the pilot of the national economy, should go definitely ahead of other sectors. In railway transport they should increase the efficiency of locomotives and freight cars, reinforce railways and speed up railway electrification and construction of new railways to increase hauling capacity quickly, and should improve the organization and direction of transport. Along with railway transport, we should further develop road and water transport and thoroughly implement the Party policy of using cableways, conveyers and pipelines in transport.

Our Party put forward the policy of radically improving the people's standard of living in the next one year or two. This year we should concentrate great efforts on the production of consumer goods to raise the material and cultural standards of the people on to a higher level.

If we are to raise the people's standard of living quickly, we should effect a great revolution in light industry. Light industry should produce various kinds of daily necessities and processed foods in large quantities by working the textile mills, cornstarch factories and other light-industry factories at full capacity and tangibly improve the quality of their goods. The chemical industry should produce plenty of chemical fibre, synthetic resin and other raw materials for light industry and supply them to light-industry factories in time.

The best way to solve the problem of non-staple foodstuffs for the people is to land a large amount of fish. The fishing industry should establish a scientific fishing system and develop active fishing operations to increase the output. They should process the landed fish well in different ways without wasting them and supply them to the people.

This is a meaningful year when we will observe the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Theses on Socialist Rural Question. This year we should give full scope to the great vitality of the Theses on Socialist Rural Question by further consolidating and developing the system of the socialist rural economy and bringing about a new change in agricultural production. In agriculture we should raise the level of mechanized farming, apply more chemical and organic fertilizers and put all farm work on a scientific and technological basis, as required by the Juche farming method. In this way, we will hit the 10 million-ton target of grain by all means and increase the output of meat, eggs and fruits to supply plenty of them to the people.

This year we should undertake urban and rural housing construction on a large-scale and solve the housing problem of the working people more satisfactorily.

This year we should radically improve the guidance and management of the national economy.

All sectors of the national economy should closely combine party-political work with the work of economic organization, properly integrate collective leadership and undivided direction, thoroughly implement unified and detailed planning and correctly effect the self-financing system so as to manage the economy more scientifically and rationally, as required by the Taean Work System. Leading economic officials should concentrate their work more scrupulously, direct production activity in a responsible manner, run all factories and enterprises at full capacity and normalize production at a high level. In this way, they will see to it that the national economic plan is carried out unconditionally every day, every ten days, and every month and quarter.

The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea called upon all the Party members and working people to turn out as one in the struggle to carry out successfully this year's national economic plan. I firmly believe that all our Party members and working people who are boundlessly loyal to the Party and the revolution will bring about a new turn in socialist economic construction this year through a heroic struggle, pursuant to the militant call of the Party Central Committee.

Comrades,

We are greeting the new year at a time when the world situation is very complex.

Owing to the undisguised imperialist manoeuvres for aggression and war, the international tension is becoming extremely acute and the danger of a new world war increasing with each passing day.

At present, our revolution is being gravely challenged by the enemies. The U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique are further intensifying their moves towards military aggression against our people and are raising frantic clamours against communism and our Republic.

Our people are confronted with a solemn task of beating back the enemies' outrageous challenge, firmly defending the nation's dignity and sovereignty and developing our revolution on to a higher stage.

In order to push ahead powerfully with our revolution under the present complicated, tense situation, we must hold high the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea and further consolidate our revolutionary ranks politically and ideologically. The Juche idea is the guiding banner of our revolution, and our people united on the basis of this idea are invincible. All Party members and working people must equip themselves firmly with the Juche idea and unite closely behind the Party Central Committee, resolutely defend and implement the Party's policies and stoutly fight to win the revolutionary cause of Juche.

We are living in an age of revolution, an age of struggle. The more complex the situation is and the more frantic the counter-revolutionary manoeuvres are, the higher revolutionary spirit the revolutionaries should maintain and the harder they should struggle by shaking themselves up. All Party members and working people should brave any obstacles and hardships with a strong conviction of victory and unbreakable fighting spirit, make continued innovations and uninterrupted advance and live and work in a militant way, rejecting indolence and slackness, as be fitting the people living in the age of revolution.

The prevailing situation demands that we should further sharpen revolutionary vigilance and keep ourselves alert and ready at all times.

The entire people should keep a sharp eye on the enemies' reckless manoeuvres for aggression and vicious provocations which are increasingly pronounced, and prepare themselves fully to seize the initiative in coping with any contingency.

The officers and men of the People's Army and the People's Security Forces should maintain a strict watch to expose and smash the enemies' aggressive moves in good time and defend the country impregnably. The Party organizations, commanders and political workers of the People's Army should conduct party political work efficiently and thoroughly implement the training programme for the new year in keeping with the situation, and thus increase their units' combat readiness and fighting capacity in every way.

The members of the Red Worker-Peasant Guards and the Red Young Guards should carry out their main revolutionary duties with credit and, at the same time, take an active part in military training so as to be better equipped with military techniques and reliably defend their work places and villages.

The Public Security personnel should defend in good faith the revolutionary gains and the people's lives and property from the enemies' espionage, subversion and sabotage and thoroughly maintain the security of the home front and public order.

Great obstacles lie in the way of national reunification because of the malignant activities of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique to rig up "two Koreas" and provoke a new war. We must struggle more vigorously to frustrate all obstructive moves of the enemies and realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country as soon as possible. This year all Koreans in the north, south and abroad should make new progress in the cause of national reunification by resolutely combatting the manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges for "two Koreas" and a new war, united closely under the banner of national reunification, transcending the differences in ideologies, systems, party affiliations and political views.

It is the consistent foreign policy of our Party and the Government of the Republic to fight against the imperialist war moves and for world peace in the international arena. Our Party and the Government of the Republic will this year, too, work hard to promote friendly and cooperative relations with many countries in the world under the banner of independence, friendship and peace, check and frustrate the imperialist schemes for the build-up of aggressive armed forces and a new war, and preserve world peace and security, in firm unity with all the progressive people aspiring after *chajusong*.

Although the present world situation is very complicated and tense, the general trend is changing still more in favour of our revolution.

Victory and glory are always in store for our people who struggle for a just revolutionary cause under the correct leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Let all of us fight on stoutly to repel the enemy moves for aggression and war, firmly safeguard national sovereignty and revolutionary achievements and win a greater victory in socialist construction, closely knit behind the Party Central Committee under the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea.

Message of Greetings to Chongryun Chairman

President Kim Il Sung sent a message of greetings on January 1 to Han Duk Su, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), greeting the new year 1984.

In his message the President said:

In the surging enthusiasm of the entire Koreans in Japan and warm wishes of the people in the homeland, last year, Chongryun successfully held the 13th Congress, put forward new fighting tasks and opened an important occasion in developing the movement of Koreans in Japan on to a new, higher stage.

In compliance with the realistic demand of the movement of Koreans in Japan Chongryun firmly established the ideological system of Juche within the organisation, closely rallied the functionaries and compatriots around our Party and the Government of the Republic and solidly built up the organisations at all levels organisationally and ideologically.

The Chongryun organisations and compatriots in Japan made a great contribution to accelerating the cause of national reunification by checking and frustrating the nation-splitting and new war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique and actively supporting and encouraging the righteous struggle of the south Korean people for independence, democracy and reunification.

Highly estimating the fact that last year all organisations and functionaries of Chongryun successfully fulfilled their heavy mission, courageously overcoming the trials and difficulties, I extend deep thanks to the entire Chongryun functionaries and 700,000 Korean residents in Japan.

In the new year Chongryun should direct primary attention to the work for more firmly establishing the ideological system of Juche within its organisations and continue to push ahead with this work.

Chongryun should firmly arm all its functionaries with the Juche idea and our Party's policy and further train them through the practical struggle to help them firmly establish the revolutionary world outlook of Juche.

Chongryun should firmly build up the ranks of cadres and the ranks of core elements in the organisations at all levels with functionaries faithful to the homeland and the Party, exert more efforts to strengthen branches and chapters so as to make all the basic organisations living organisations acting always among the compatriots and consolidate the mass foundation of Chongryun.

Chongryun should direct deep attention to the work with young compatriots of the new generation to firmly prepare them as ardent patriots, true revolutionaries of Juche type. Along with this, it should direct much efforts to the work of national education, constantly expanding the ranks of students and raising the quality of education to a higher stage and thereby thoroughly train the rising generation to be dependable successors to the patriotic work of Chongryun.

Chongryun should vigorously struggle to realize the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo set forth by our Party and actively support and encourage the south Korean people's struggle against U.S. imperialism and for independence through an all-compatriot patriotic movement.

It should develop the friendship with the Japanese people and strengthen solidarity with the peoples of various countries of the world and thus greatly contribute to creating an international climate favourable to national reunification.

Believing that Chongryun will successfully fulfil its patriotic work, fully displaying loyalty to the homeland and the Party in the new year, the great leader wishes Chongryun functionaries good health and the entire compatriots in Japan happiness.

New Year Message of Chongryun Chairman to Our Readers

Ushering a new year 1984 I, in the name of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) and the entire 700,000 Korean residents in Japan, extend the heartfelt congratulations and greetings to the readers of The People's Korea.

On this occasion I also express my sincerest thanks to those friends in many countries of the world who have sent consistent support and international solidarity to the Korean people and Korean residents in Japan in their strivings for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

The last year 1983 was really a significant year for the Korean people and the Korean residents in Japan. In September last year, the Korean people splendidly celebrated as the national fete of great importance the 35th founding anniversary of the socialist fatherland – the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which was founded by great leader President Kim Il Sung, and has advanced on the road of development and prosperity under his leadership.

This celebration program was attended by 270 delegations from 116 countries the world over. A historical address was made by great leader President Kim Il Sung at the congratulatory banquet held on last Sept. 9 and it boundlessly encouraged the Korean people striving for the reunification of the fatherland and the peoples of the world who are advancing on the road of *chajusong* (independence), brightly lightening their future road.

Last year the Korean people further strengthened the basis of the independent national economy by achieving great successes in socialist construction which gave a surprise to the people of the world under the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear leader, and the livelihood of the Korean people was heightened to a great extent.

Additionally as a result of the independent and peace-loving external policy and the active diplomatic activities of the DPRK Government the international prestige of our country has largely enhanced and friendship and unity with the peace-loving people the world over have unprecedentedly been strengthened.

In particular, dear leader Secretary Kim Jong Il's visit to China at the invitation of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Hu Yo Bang greatly contributed not only to further strengthening friendship and unity between both Korean and Chinese peoples but also to guaranteeing peace in Asia and the world.

Many friends in the world who have watched the documentary film on the China visit of dear leader Secretary Kim Jong Il further deepened their feelings of respect and trust to him, who has splendedly succeeded and developed the achievement of Juche cultivated by great leader President Kim Il Sung, and is leading the Korean revolution to victory and glory.

Last year our country was visited by heads of state from 16 countries including presidents of the Congo, Egypt and Zimbabwe, and 60 government delegations and friendship delegations from many countries.

A World Conference of Journalists held in July last was participated in by the delegations from 113 countries, and the delegations from 72 countries attended the 1st Conference of the Ministers of Education and Culture of Non-aligned Countries.

Today the DPRK not only is in a period of glorious prosperity but occupies an unshakable and indisputable position in the international arena as an independent and sovereign state and has many supporters and intimate friends in all countries and regions of the world. The last one year was highly significant for the works of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), too. The 13th Congress of Chongryun was held in Tokyo from last June 27 for three days, bearing a historical significance for development of Chongryun and its work and lives of the Koreans resident.

In the Congress we summarized the fine successes achieved during the last 3 years and decided to further strongly push forward every patriotic task of Chongryun, including reunification of the fatherland along with the Juche-indicated road, highly upholding the leadership of great leader President Kim Il Sung and dear leader Secretary Kim Jong Il, in the future, too.

Dear readers!

Today the world strategy of the Reagan administration, pursuing the "policy of strength", poses a major threat to world peace and a major factor producing tension and danger of war in every part of the world. Particularly what draws our deep concern is the fact that danger of nuclear war is increasing on the Korean Peninsula day by day and the formation of the three-way military alliance between U.S., Japan and south Korea is entering the final stage.

In the last year U.S.-south Korea joint military exercises were perpetrated against the DPRK in an unprecedented scale on and around south Korea.

The military fascist "regime" of south Korean Gen. Chon Du Hwan, carried out large-scale tyrannical anti-communist and anti-DPRK rows by making best use of the Rangoon incident which they had plotted by themselves, and leading the situation on the Korean Peninsula to the brink of war.

The Reagan administration and some of Japanese ruling circles, wholly supporting the Chon Du Hwan junta, overtly followed the hostile policy toward the DPRK.

Bellicose Reagan, generating a war atmosphere by inspecting the Military Demarcation Line, declared that the U.S. would largely increase the armed forces in south Korea. This reminds us of the eve of the Korean war and a serious situation is prevailing on the Korean Peninsula in which another war may break out any moment.

Behind this political background the shooting assault incident happened on the last Nov. 18 against the central headquarter of Chongryun, which has been engaged in the activities to defend the democratic national rights of the Koreans resident in Japan, promote the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, and strengthen the friendships with the people the world over. This comes out as a serious challenge and criminal act against the DPRK and Chongryun, committed tied up with the south Korean puppet clique and some of Japanese ruling circle.

However, any sabotage machination of the reactionary forces can not daunt the will of the Korean people and the Korean residents in Japan to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Last year great leader President Kim Il Sung renewed the proposal to establish the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo, a program received by the world people with their wide support and approval.

This was confirmed through a series of international conference including "Emergency International Conference on Korean Question" held in Paris on last Feb. 25, "International Conference on Social Economic Rights of South Korean People" in Rome on Apr. 29 and "All Japan Meeting on Supporting Korean Reunification" *in Japan on Nov. 13.*

Moreover, the fact that many countries boycotted the IPU General Meeting in Seoul is direct expression of support to the Korean people.

Dear readers!

This issue of independent and peaceful reunification of Korea is the largest national aspiration of the Korean people, and its solution is indispensable for peace in Asia and the world.

In this year, too, we will further powerfully strive for achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the greatest national aspiration of the entire Korean people.

President Kim Il Sung said as follows:

"As in the past, so also in the future, the DPRK will, under the banner of independence, friendship and peace, strive to oppose imperialism, defend world peace and security and promote friendly and cooperative relations among the peoples of socialist, non-aligned and all other countries in the world."

We will, in future, too, continuously advance the road of anti-imperialism, and independence by firmly uniting with all the peace-loving people in the world, and lean every effort to deepen international support and encouragement toward the strivings of the Korean people to make the U.S. troops withdraw from south Korea, and independently and peacefully reunify the country.

Finally, I sincerely wish the new year of 1984 may be a hopeful and glorious one to you who aspire after peace, and wish you good health and happiness.

January 1, 1984

Han Duk Su
Chairman
Central Standing Committee
The General Association of
Korean Residents in Japan

Korea's Economic Successes in 1983

DPRK's International Prestige High

The economic construction is successfully under way in the DPRK. The whole Korean people are tackling the 10 long-range goals of socialist economic construction which President Kim Il Sung set forth at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (October, 1980) as goals to be attained in the 80s. He stated that the 10 long-term objectives of socialist economic construction would be achieved by 1988 in a talk with a delegation of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance of Peru, in July last year.

Here is a round-up of last year's achievements:

Output Increased Thousand Times Since Immediately After Korea's Liberation

First of all, let's see what the ten long-range goals of socialist economic construction are, which the Korean people are required to attain in the 1980s.

The goals are for a economic plan and are two-three times as high as the actual achievements of the 6-year-plan and to an increase of five-six times as high as these set for the Second Seven-Year Plan.

If the ten long-range goals are attained, the country's industrial output value will increase 3.1 times the present levels in the late 1980s and 1,000 times that in 1946. This means that it would take only eight hours for the country to produce what it did in 1964. Moreover, if the targets are attained, the DPRK's economy will rank among the advanced industrial economies of the world which have a history of 100-200 years after the Industrial Revolution.

According to an estimate by our newspaper (See below Table), it is possible for the DPRK to outpace, in per capita production of principal products, Japan, which is said to place second in this respect, and the Western countries. Socialist economic construction in the DPRK started from scratch after the liberation or after the 36-year colonial rule of Korea by Japan. When the ten long-range goals are attained, it will have laid material and technical foundations for a completely victorious socialist country (See note) in less than half a century.

It is because the country has so far achieved considerable economic successes that it has now been able to set forth such a bold economic plan.

The DPRK has high economic potentialities due to its independent economy, marked by a high self-sufficiency rate of 70 percent in the supply of raw materials, rich natural resources, and highly developed science and technology, which have been particularly remarkable since the 1970s.

In the following, we will discuss this point, comparing the country's achievements with those in other countries in the 1970s.

The DPRK chalked up an annual average industrial output growth rate of 15.9 percent in 1970–1979. Advanced industrial countries, however, recorded low economic growth rates in the same period. Thus, the economic growth rate was 0.2 percent for the United States (1970–'76), 0.8 percent for the U.K. (1970–'76), 4 percent for Japan (1977). The annual average economic growth rate stood at 7.2 percent for developing countries (1970–'77). (The figures are from the White Paper on the World Economy '78.)

Major Targets to Be Attained In the Main by 1985

The DPRK achieved this remarkable economic development in the 1970s when the world economy was hit by a creeping recession.

The grandiose economic targets set forth by the countries for the 1980s on the basis of this economic successes made in the 1970s are now attracting the attention of the world.

Referring to this point, President Kim Il Sung said as follows:

"Considering the present general situation in our country, I think, the ten long-term objectives for socialist economic construction will be attained for sure within the set time. Perhaps, nearly all the objectives will be achieved by 1988

"We plan to reach basically the major ones of the objectives by 1985 and hold the 7th congress of our Party in 1986."

The President's firm conviction and prospect are supported by the actual achievements made in the past three years.

1.5 Billion Meters of Fabrics Will Be Attained in Near Future

Now, let us sum up the present state of the mining industries of the DPRK. A bright prospect is obtained for the attainment of 120 million tons of coal, which is the main energy resource of the Republic. The country's coal reserves are estimated at 14 billion tons. At present, large scale coal mine construction and reconstruction projects are under way, and this, coupled by technological innovations carried out in the industry, holds out a bright prospect for a-aid-of-schedule attainment of the target.

Komdok Mining Enterprise has completed construction of the third ore dressing plant and expansion of the first and second ore dressing plant, increasing its ore dressing capacity 4.6 times. The third ore dressing plant is capable of dressing 10 million tons of ores annually. The completion of this plant makes it possible to obtain a bright prospect for annual production of 1.5 million tons of nonferrous metals.

The metal industry, the backbone of heavy industry, has already achieved a great success in the research and development of a Juche-oriented iron manufacturing method based on homeproduced coal.

In August last year, Kim Chaek Iron Works decided to increase steel production capacity to 6 million tons and in October Ryungson Iron Works to 3 million tons.

If these two iron works are able to produce 9 million tons of steel put together in the near future, it is not difficult to attain the production goal of 15 million tons of steel, in consideration of the powerful production bases, including the newly-constructed Tadonggang Iron Works (target – 3 million tons), Hwanghae Iron Works (target – 1.8 million tons), and Chongjin Iron Works (target – 1 million tons).

Preparations are now being made smoothly to attain the production goal of 1,500 million metres of fabrics. In order to attain this goal, it is necessary to produce 270,000 tons of fibres. For this purpose, the national conference of the Workers' Party of Korea held recently decided to newly build a vinalon factory with a production capacity of 100,000 tons in the Sunchon district.

This is double the capacity of the February 8 Vinalon Factory (50,000 tons). When it is completed, it is possible to produce more than 500 million tons of fabrics with the output from this factory alone. With the combined production capacity of these two factories, it is possible to produce more than half fabrics production goal.

If the production of the Sinuiju Textile Mill (producing over 150 million metres of fabrics now. By 1984, its capacity will be increased over two times.) and the Chongjin Textile Mill (180 million metres) is added to this, it will not at all be difficult to produce 1,500 million metres of fabrics.

DPRK to Rank First in World In Per Unit Area Rice Output

The most ambition of the 10 major target is the one to produce 15 million tons of grains.

Korea has achieved epochal results in agriculture, the Achilles' tendon of socialism, and has developed a farming method on the highest level in the world.

Its rice (unhulled) output per hectare was 7.2 tons in 1979, the highest per unit area rice output in the world. As a result of intensive farming the DPRK produced 9.5 million tons of grains from 1.5 million hectares of arable land last year.

The DPRK has raised rice production per ton (about ¼ of an acre) to the highest level in the world. It is an urgent question to constantly improve the method to manage agriculture and expand acreage. One of the grand projects the DPRK is tackling now is to transform nature and reclaim 300,000

(Table) Per capita output by country

	the DPRK	Japan	West Germany	France	England
electricity (kwh)	5556	4538	5425	3677	4952
coal (kg-m)	6667	163	1559	440	221
steel (kg-m)	833	952	689	438	398
cement (kg-m)	1111	609	555	557	398
aquatic products (kg-m)	277	94	7	15	19
grain (kg-m)	833	–	–	–	–

The DPRK Establishes Diplomatic Relations with Some 70 Countries in 10 Years.

In the early '70s, it was only 30 countries that had diplomatic relations with the DPRK, and the number increased to 100 odd countries with new 70 countries added to it since then.

This, the countries which recognize the DPRK are three times as many as they were 10 years before. The main countries that have no diplomatic relations with the DPRK are only the U.S., Japan and the NATO nations.

Even now the U.S. turns down the DPRK's proposal to change "cease-fire treaty" to a "peace treaty", and carries on "its two Korea policy".

Moreover, Japan and the NATO nations follow the "two-Korea policy" of the U.S. and continue following a hostile policy to the DPRK instead of establishing diplomatic relations.

On the other hand, south Korea established diplomatic relations with only 40 nations in the same period.

Moreover, in the same period, south Korea was severed diplomatic relations with such third world nations as Rwanda, the Seychelles, Grenada, and Lesotho one after another.

This shows that many countries regard south Korea as a U.S. colony and the government of the northern half of the Republic as the only legitimate government.

At the 70th Conference of IPU held in Seoul last October, the participants were from only 60 countries, because 30 countries including the socialist countries and third world countries boycotted it.

It is unusual for the IPU Conference to be boycotted by member nations.

The Seoul conference proved to be a complete failure.

All member nations took part in the Rome conference held in September 1983. The U.S. and the Chon group in the Seoul conference tried to make the Chon "government" recognized internationary and "two Koreas" an accomplished fact by hosting the conference, but in vain.

The failure of the conference proved how the Chon group was isolated in the world. The Chon group was disappointed with the result of the conference, and is now afraid of the Asian Athletic Meet in 1986 and the Seoul Olympic in 1988.

Ministers of Education and Culture of Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries Meet in Pyongyang

Various important conferences were held in Pyongyang last year. After the 7th Non-aligned Summit Conference, the First Conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries was held from Sept. 24 through 28. The conference was participated by 75 countries and 95 delegates from 20 world organizations.

This conference adopted President Kim Il Sung's speech "Let Non-Aligned and Developing Countries Build National Culture Under the Banner of Independence and Sovereignty" which was addressed at a reception given in honor of the participants, and was adopted as an official document.

Moreover, the World Journalist Conference against Imperialism and for Friendship and Peace in which 169 delegates and delegations from 180 countries and 17 organizations took part, and The World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Conference on Primary Health Care (Sept. 7–16), the 6th Asia Music Rostrum and Symposium (Oct. 9–15) were held in Pyongyang.

These conferences show that the third world countries are trying to learn from the successes attained by the DPRK in the field of social revolution and construction.

"The Contribution to the Solution of African Countries' Food Problem"

The DPRK has consistently supported non-aligned countries in a way suitable to conditions in different countries and is regarded as "a model for the third world countries".

The third world countries should build self-reliant national economics so that they may maintain political independence.

For the time being the most important problem is to develop agriculture so that they may be self-sufficient in food supply.

Now, the DPRK's agricultural engineers and specialists help developing countries in agriculture and train agricultural specialists in African countries including Guinea and Tanzania.

The DPRK extends aid to more than 60 countries in 150 agricultural projects, according to its official announcements.

"Close Relationship between Korea and China"

The most conspicuous event in foreign affair in the DPRK last year was the visit to the China of, Mr. Kim Jong Il, from June, 1 through 12. High government and military officials, beginning with Mr. Hu Yaobang, Mr. Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang welcomed him with exceptionally warm hospitality as compared with thier attitude to other foreign leaders.

Mr. Kim Jong Il's visit to China following President Kim Il Sung's in September, 1982, and the visit to Korea of Hu Yaobang and Deng Xiaoping in Sept. 1982 attracted the great attention of the world, as their mutual visits made closer relationship between the DPRK and the PRC, which is becoming deepened daily.

Recently have being during his visit to Japan Mr. Hu Yaobang held a conference with Premier Nakasone, when he revealed that he had contacted twice with President Kim Il Sung.

Foreign Leaders Who Visited the DPRK (1983)

- Congolese Presidnet Denis Sassou-Nguesso (March 12–15)
- Upper Voltese Prime Minister Thoms Sankara (March 13–16)
- Mr. Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Member of the National Leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and Coordinator of the Council of the Government of National Reconstruction of the Republic of Nicaragua (March 18–21)
- Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (April 4–5)
- Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop (April 10–14)
- Seychellois President' France Albert Rene (April 24–27)

Chongryun Activists, Korean Nationals Gather in Tokyo For New Year Tasks

A large number of Chongryun activists and Korean nationals in Kanto districts assembled on Jan. 10 at the Korean Cultural Hall in Tokyo for a successful accomplishment of tasks, which President Kim Il Sung set forth in his New Year messages.

Last year Chongryun made clear officially its continuing allegiance to President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il at its 13th Congress held from June 27 to 29, by summing up the past three-year activities since the 12th Congress.

The 13th Congress was an important opportunity to develop Chongryun work onto a higher plane.

Touching upon the international situation, he said, the U.S. and its followers are aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula and other places in the world.

Saying that Chongryun will meet its 30th birthday next year, Chairman Han underlined the further efforts to produce new turn in the movement.

At the gathering he urged the strengthening of Chongryun organization under the guidance of the President and the young leader;

Participants in the gathering of Chongryun activists and compatriots for New Year tasks held on Jan. 10 at the Tokyo Korean Cultural Hall

the efforts for the development of the democratic national education and the defending of the democratic national rights; the efforts for the reunification of the country under the anti-U.S., independent stance and the deepening of the international solidarity with the Japanese people and the peace-loving people the world over.

Socialist Construction

(Continued from page 4)

hectares of land from the sea by drainage. When this project is completed, the reclaimed land will be utilized as paddy fields. This land will produce 3 million tons unhulled rice in the future.

The food problem is one to be considered from a worldwide viewpoint. In the field, the DPRK has already played an important international role, attaining self-sustenance in food supply, saving food for emergency, exporting food and extending aid in food to other countries.

To Construct Nampo Type Lock Gates Nation-Wide

It is the Nampo Lock Gate construction project that is attracting attention in economic construction in the DPRK. It is said that it is unprecedented in scale in the world and there is no end to people visiting the site from foreign countries.

The construction is to be completed in 1985 or next year. In the past two years since the start of the construction project, a lock bank as long as 4 kilometres has been constructed.

The lock gates have been constructed at the mouths of the Taedong River and Chaeryong River. The project is to build a 8-kilometre lock bank to enable ships, large and small to negotiate the rivers. And on the bank cars will run and a railway line will be laid.

(Note)

The complete victory of socialism:

This is the most important target to be attained in the course of modelling the whole society according to the Juche idea.

A complete socialist society will be realized when there are no class distinctions between the working class the peasantry and the middle classes. When this is realized, it can be called a completely triumphant socialist society. This will be realized when the productive forces are raised at least to the level of the developed capitalist countries and the technical revolution is promoted to a level where agriculture is modernized in developed capitalist countries, when farming work is done by machines, and is supported by chemicalization and irrigation, and when the eight-hour working day is adopted in the country side, too.

Outrage upon Chongryun, Korean Residents Increases

On Nov. 24, last year, self-defense force officials attacked a Korean residing in Eniwa City, Hokkaido.

The victim was Mr. Kim Ung I, a second hand goods dealer, in the city.

Assailters were Han Riichi, 27, Sasa Kunihiko, 23, and Sugawa Yasuhiko, 23, who belongs to the 302nd tank unit of the first tank battalion at the Eniwa Base of the Japan's ground self-defense force.

At 10:00 p.m. on Nov. 24, Sasa and the two other officials made up a pretext for a fight with Mr. Kim on the street in Sakae-cho, Eniwa City on their way to this unit after they attended a party in Eniwa City.

They attacked Mr. Kim Ung I by kicking and beating him. His injuries were closed with six stitches in three parts. He is now receiving medical treatment.

Representatives of the Hokkaido headquarters of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) headed by its chairman with the Hokkaido Police Headquarters on Nov. 15 and the Chitose police station on Nov. 8 against the assault. They demanded stern punishment of the assailants and a measure to prevent recurrence of similar incident.

The Chongryun representatives said that the police authorities had taken an unjustifiable attitude – they released the assailants immediately and asked Mr. Kim for an amicable out – of – court settlement of the case. They strongly demanded that the police authorities deal with the incident fairly according to law.

In the wake of the Rangoon blast, an international political scheme, committed on Oct. 9, anti-DPRK and anti-Chongryun campaigns were launched by the south Korean and Japanese authorities and raids on Chongryun offices and Korean nationals here were committed one after another by Japanese right-wing groups and hooligans, who were believed to be wire-pulled by a strong organisation.

On Nov. 18, the head office of Chongryun located at Fujimi, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo, was raided by two hooligans, who fired revolvers at Chongryun staff and fired 12 shots at the front gate and the main hall.

The revolver firing incident was a well-planned, well-organized criminal act which was committed with a political background.

Immediately after the "Rangoon bomb blast," a right-wing organization, drove a large-size sound truck near the main gate of the Korean Hall and obstructed Chongryun's work by turning up the volume on the speaker. Some members of the "ROK Residents Union in Japan (Mindan)" gathered in front of the Korean Hall and shouted threateningly.

Just before the revolver firing incident, threatening letters were sent to the head office from unidentified right-wing groups.

On Nov. 17, the day before the incident, a couple of hooligans who were believed to be identical with the criminals responsible for the case, inspected the head office beforehand. It is believed that these two hooligans had been watched by the Japanese police authorities.

The revolver firing incident against the Chongryun head office is qualitatively different from the acts committed against it in the past in the means and method employed. The incident shows that it is an indiscriminate act of terror aimed at Koreans and persons connected with Chongryun.

On Dec. 11, right-wingers attacked the Tsurumi branch office of Chongryun's Kanagawa headquarters and destroyed part of the office.

At around 4:30 p.m., the criminals rushed to the office by a car and rammed the car into the shuttered front door of the branch office and a side of the office. The shutter, the front door, the wall, and an air conditioner were damaged. An automatic vending machine, and a bulletin board were also broken. They tried to force into the office, but failed.

Prior to the incident or on Nov. 9 and Nov. 11, the Tsurumi branch office received threatening calls.

In addition, on Nov. 20 right-wing groups stopped scores of sound trucks in front of the Tsurumi branch office of Chongryun's Kanagawa Headquarters, and shouted threateningly, "Kill Koreans!" and "Koreans, go home!"

The attack on the Tsurumi branch office was a premeditated act, which is clear from the fact that they came when Chongryun workers were absent from the office.

Meanwhile, four hooligans drove a sound truck and a jeep on the afternoon of Nov. 3 to the Aichi head office of Chongryun's Aichi prefectural headquarters and heaped slanders on the DPRK and Chongryun, turning up the volume on the speaker.

The Chongryun Aichi headquarters slanders on the act to a police station, while asking the plainclothesmen, who were shadowing the hooligans, to remove them from the place. But they just looked on.

Assaults were commited on two Korean high school girl students by Japanese right wingers. (**See the No. 1,173 issue of The People's Korea**)

At around 7:50 a.m. on Nov. 24, a girl high school student of Kanagawa Korean Junior and Senior High School was hit on the back of her head with a wooden stick by an unidentified Japanese at the north gate of Kawasaki station of the Japanese National Railways while she was on her way to school.

The student fell unconscious and sustained an injury which took two weeks to heal completely.

At around 5:40 p.m. on Dec. 6, another girl student of the same school was raided by a Japanese hooligan at Higashitera Station in Tsurumi Ward, Yokohama City, on her way home. She was stabbed in the thigh with a knife. Her wound was five centimeters deep and two centimeters wide.

The assaulters aimed at the Korean girl students in traditional Korean costume. In most previous cases, the victims were boy students. In these attacks, the hooligans used lethal weapons, that is, a knife and a wooden staff. These hateful acts were so serious as to pose a change to their lives.

In connection with these assaults, the Kanagawa Korean Junior and Senior High School received threatening calls on Nov. 28 and Dec. 9.

Chongryun reported these incidents to the Japanese police authorities when they occurred and repeatedly demanded measures to prevent unjustifiable acts against Koreans. No proper measures have yet been taken by the Japanese authorities.

Foreign Relations

(Continued from page 4)

- Mr. Leabua Jonathan, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho (May 7–13)
- Rwandan President Habyarimana Juvenal (May 12–13)
- General Andre Kolingba, President of the Military Committee for National Redressment and Head of State of the Central African Republic (July 9–11)
- Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana (Aug. 20–23)
- Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom (Aug. 28–30)
- Mr. Peng Zhen, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC (Sept. 7–15)
- Mr. Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia (Oct. 17–23)
- Romanian Prime Minister, Constantin Dascalescu (Nov. 25–)
- Guinean Prime Minister, Lansana Beavocui visited the DPRK on Sept. 5 as a head of the delegation for celebration of 35th birthday of the DPRK and left Pyongyang on Nov. 2, 1983.

Korean National Files Complaint Against Two Policemen

A 27-year old Korean residing in Yubari City, Hokkaido, on Dec. 15 filed a complaint with the prosecution against two local police officers. He charged them in his complaint with abusing police authority while investigating him for failure to carry with him a driver's license and an alien registration certificate.

The plaintiff is Li Nyon Ho, an executive of a company in Shikanoya, Yubari City, Hokkaido. He asserts in his complaint that the method of investigation and the fingerprinting to which he was subjected, constituted a violation of his human rights.

Earlier on Dec. 10 he was questioned by traffic control officers in the vicinity of his residence at Kuriyama-cho, Yubari County, while he was driving at around 10:30 p.m. He found not to be carrying his registration card and drivers license, when he was stopped by the traffic control officers while he was driving. He was told to present a written explanation to a police box and ordered to report to the Kuriyama police box on Nov. 11 at around 3:30 p.m., on Nov. 11 he appeared at the Kuriyama police station, where he was subjected to police investigation. The investigation included: Disclosing even his private financial assets; when he attended Korean school; whether he could speak Korean; how many workers he employed: (as well as his name, the date of his birth)

All these matters were irrelevant to his violation of the "Alien Registration Law."

A policeman, about 40 years old is said to have continued interrogating, now and then looking down at a sort of document in a drawer of his desk.

Mr. Li asked the policeman to let him return home saying he was busy. The policeman said that he could not allow Mr. Li to return home before he took full-face and profile photos of him. He was fingerprinted all fingers of his hands and measured his foot size and height. The policeman has attempted to get Mr. Li's blood type examined.

Surprised at the way he was investigated by the police, Mr. Li protested, saying, "Why do you treat me like a felon?" The policeman threatened, him, saying "This is provided for by the law. Unless you follow this procedure, you won't be allowed to return home."

The policeman forced him to be fingerprinted, which was prohibited without the consent of the person concerned.

In the complaint, filed with the Sapporo District Public Prosecutor's Office, he claims that the investigation which he was subjected to was irrelevant to the violation of the Road Traffic Act and the "Alien Registration Law"; the police forced him to be fingerprinted, saying "Fingerprinting is provided for by the law." There was no need for the police to take his fingerprints and footsize.

Whose Interests Does Rangoon Affair Serve, Pyongyang's or Seoul's?

By Kim Myong Chol
Special to The People's Korea

More than two months after the October 9 Rangoon bombing incident, it is quite pertinent to assess objectively and disinterestedly the case in a bid to get to truth and set the things right. For the moment, two horizontally opposing accounts of the incident have been presented: Seoul alleges that the bombing raid was the work of the north Korean commandos, while Pyongyang charges the south Korean junta with having masterminded the incident to divert public attention from the domestic crisis hitting the ruling quarters.

This, the first of a two-part article, mostly deals with the question of whose interests did the Rangoon bombing incident serve best, Pyongyang's or Seoul's. An answer to the question will have good leads to the key issue of who did engineer the terrorist attack and for what purposes. Determination of the motivation behind any given crime usually turns out a best clue to the criminal. The second of the series will concentrate on a critical examination of what the south Koreans and the Burmese cited as evidence which they claimed conclusively pointed the finger to the north ..... Editors

Since the first allegations made by the south Koreans and subsequently accepted by the Burmese are that Pyongyang sent the terrorists to carry out the bombing, first investigated is the question of whether the bombing served the policy interests of the DPRK government.

Then comes a full analysis of what policy purposes of the Chon junta might have been met in the bombing case which killed 19 top-ranking south Korean officials in charge of fiscal and foreign policy affairs.

Does it make any sense at all for the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il to organize a hit team to attempt to assassinate the south Korean dictator Gen. Chon Du Hwan? Does such policy option fit in with the long-standing thinking and behavior of the DPRK government whose underlying premise is that the south Korean junta is an American client installed, supported, armed and financed by the United States?

Does it deserve running the risk of losing a close Southeast Asian ally and having its international image tarnished by sending a terrorist squad to the capital of the nation? All its hopes of wooing the south Korean people and the international public and having peace talks with the Americans for creation of better climate for reunification would be dashed instantly without any renewed chance of recovery?

It may be totally relevant to recall that the government of the DPRK has every reason to try to have Mr. Kim Jong Il recognized by the world community of nations as successor of the legendary hero President Kim Il Sung. An assassination attempt would obviously throw cold water upon the growingly warm reception of the young DPRK leader by the international community.

The Times of London observed in its October 12 editorial:

"But there are grounds for questioning whether the north Koreans were, in fact, involved. Burma is one of the few Asian countries with which north Korea has good relations and the north Koreans would be unlikely to jeopardize their friendship with the Burmese in such a way."

A similar question was raised by the Far Eastern Economic Review. The magazine in an article written by a south Korean correspondent noted:

"These speculations (charges against the north) fail to explain fully the north's possible motivation, however, for the simple reason it seemingly stood to gain nothing from the Rangoon bombing regardless of its success or failure."

To all intents and purposes it is only too obvious to the leadership of Pyongyang that it would emerge the far bigger loser in say such terrorist mission without profit anything at all therefrom, a self-defeating act too costly even in case of success.

Long-Standing Behavior

The long-standing basic assumption of DPRK policy decision is that any given south Korean junta is a dyed-in-the-wool puppet ruler trained, handpicked, installed, supported, armed and financed by the Americans with a large pool of potential candidates for his replacement, whose removal is considered to be no help to the process of reunification and south Korean democracy unless the U.S. colonial ruling system is toppled and democracy restored to make south Korea free from American intervention.

This assumption has proved to be true in the more than 30 years history of south Korea since its division from the north. There were two major events which left the then dictator Syngman Rhee dethroned and the late Pak Jung Hi gunned down by his own security chief. Each time a new American client seized power, establishing all the more ruthless dictatorial regime.

In the April Popular Uprising of 1960, south Korean citizens succeeded in bringing down the first dictator of south Korea Syngman Rhee but stopped short of uprooting the American ruling machines in that part of the Korean Peninsula.

Some hoped that democracy would come with the dethronement of the dictator. A sort of groundless euphoria prevailed, leaving the local masses with hopes of democracy and reunification. Did democracy and reunification come to those who had wished for them?

Instead a reinforced dictatorship of a general came because the Americans thought a civilian like Syngman Rhee could not rule effectively. After all the American colonial ruling system remained intact. A group of generals faithful to the Americans and their new ally the Japanese staged a military coup d'etat and seized the reins of government with American endorsement.

The group led by Gen. Pak Jung Hi ruled south Korea with iron fists for 18 years, which compares with Syngman Rhee's 15 years in power. The Pak junta, departing from the anti-Japanese line of Syngman Rhee, normalized relations with Japan and paved the way for south Korea's economic subjugation to the emerging junior ally of the United States.

This military rule came to an end in its 18th year following the Masan-Pusan popular uprising when KCIA director Gen. Kim Jae Gyu shot to death his boss Pak Jung Hi. It was October, 1979. The late Pak became a liability to American policy conduct in south Korea which led to the decision to have him liquidated.

This time again a short period of euphoria came – the so-called spring in Seoul which made the south Korean largely unprepared against a standard American policy move, that is, to name a new replacement for the assassinated strongman. The American move was effective in taking advantage of the growing bickering within the democratic opposition forces over the leadership.

Thus came the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan, a paratrooper trained in special warfare who took power with visible American military support in a series of staged putsch. The sequence of events which followed is well known to the world: the December 12, 1979 army coup and the May 1980 bloody repression of the Kwangju uprising with more than 3,000 people massacred.

The removal of two dictators, both at the hands of south Koreans, the first through a student uprising and the second as a result of the assassination by a key member of the inner circle of power – which proved shocking to the local population and the world public – failed to destroy the American ruling system but produced the more draconic dictatorship, the power confusion also was created in the intervening period.

Such removal, if carried out by the north, could evidently have produced disastrous results for Pyongyang, drove the terrified south Korean public to the side of the local ruling quarters and the Americans and provided them with the best ammunition to attack the north in force – tensions could have reached the explosion points, resulting in the resumption of hostilities there.

The third thing which verified the basic premise of Pyongyang's policy decision was three sets of talks with the south on reuniting the divided country independently and by peaceful means. The three went nowhere mainly because of the Americans balking their progress by encouraging the south Korean rulers to adopt delaying tactics to the point of eventual breakdown.

The first set prematurely collapsed in 1961 when north-south student talks scheduled to be held in Panmunjom, the demarcation town, were prevented by the seizure of power by Gen. Pak Jung Hi.

The second was anyhow held with the historic north-south joint statement produced which called for independent and peaceful reintegration of the north and south. It was scuttled when the Americans ordered the then ruler Pak Jung Hi to utilize the talks only for strengthening the dictatorial regime and finally suspend them by declaring a two-Korea policy.

The third, coming in the wake of the assassination of Pak Jung Hi, came to a quick halt when Gen. Chon Du Hwan rose to puppet power, though north-south premiers talks were planned. Gen. Chon, aware of the widespread reunification sentiments, is determined to only exploit them for political purposes but not to bring the country nearer to the reunification.

All these facts of history show graphically that any terrorist action to attempt on the life of any given south Korean strongman or his politically-manipulated removal does not make any contribution to the policy objective of the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il of rallying the south Korean people behind the reunification cause and helping restore democracy in south Korea not does it lead to peace talks with Washington.

Counterproductive

Supposing that a commando mission "succeeded" against the south Korean ruler, it is too apparent that the south Koreans blame the north at once and mount an extensive campaign to discredit the north by depicting Pyongyang as a government hellbent on terrorist acts throughout the world."

In this sense, there can be no "successful mission" of a commando force against the south Korean dictator. Except for the case of KCIA director gunning down Pak Jung Hi – only when the assassin proves to be an obvious south Korean or American – any attempt on the life of the ruling south Korean strongman is bound to be branded as the work of north Koreans.

Pyongyang has consistently been portrayed by the south Korean dictatorial juntas and their American patrons as responsible for all the "incidents" which took place and will take place in south Korea. Therefore Pyongyang sees no political spinoff in such terrorist activities not only in south Korea but also in other parts of the world. Because it only does play into the hands of the south Koreans and the Americans.

A terrorist action against the state guest visiting a foreign country in its capital is clearly sure to be received as an unprecedented act in violation of its sovereignty and mockery of its friendly relations with Pyongyang and as a major breach of international law and practice. This inevitably causes the host country to move to sever diplomatic relations with the DPRK.

This risk is unmistakably clear to the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il, which broke out of the international blockade laid by the Americans and their south Korean clients and has since been making intensive efforts to foster diplomatic relations with as many countries as possible to win their recognition as the sole government of the Korean Peninsula and as a decent member of the world community.

Consequently, Pyongyang has every reason to refrain from doing anything which may give a pretext for any given country to reconsider its relations with Pyongyang. This need is all the more urgent and greater because there is no military way of toppling the American colonial presence with diplomatic solutions left available as the sole option.

In the final analysis, Southeast Asia, many countries taking a nonaligned path, is still an area where American and south Korean presence is dominant vis-a-vis the diplomatic conduct of the DPRK. Severance of diplomatic relations by Rangoon with Pyongyang in the aftermath of such a terrorist incident is intolerable to the policy planners in the DPRK.

The resulting consequence is the danger of Pyongyang earning an ill image of being a state of international hooligans which has no qualifications to remain a member of the international community of nations. Once such dishonor were incurred, it would be almost hard for diplomats of Pyongyang to engage in effective normal activities abroad because it gives suspensions that they may launch an adventurist mission again.

This smeared image would kill all possible chances of the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il to frustrate the "two-Korea" policy of the Americans and the south Koreans and preventing the perpetuation of the division of the country.

Pyongyang would be forced to abandon the plan to try to have dialogue with the United States to replace the present armistice talks with a peace treaty which is to lead to the military disengagement of the United States from south Korea. Lost for ever would be the prospect of winning the hearts and minds of the south Korean people in the cause of restoring the traditional Korean values throughout the Korean Peninsula.

The government in Pyongyang would find itself facing a near-war situation without its relaxation out of sight and sacrificing most of its consumer goods-production projects to boost military spending – a cul-de-sac situation with its much-tauted Juche principle totally discredited.

A particular mention must be made of the succession issue in Pyongyang whose successful solution is vital to the continuing prosperity and survival of the DPRK. Protection and enhancement of the image and credibility of Mr. Kim Jong Il, successor of President Kim Il Sung as a reasonable, seasoned and capable leader is the foremost concern of the whole party, the whole of the state, all the armed forces and people of the DPRK.

The ongoing campaign of Washington and Seoul to discredit

(Continued on page 7)

Whose Interests Does Rangoon Affair Serve, Pyongyang's or Seoul's?

(Continued from page 7)

Mr. Kim Jong Il as a by-product of the hereditary succession adds to the concern and spotlights the need to protect his prestige and credibility. In particular everything must be done to distance Mr. Kim Jong Il from any hints of unreasonableness. The DPRK must increase its diplomatic activities, boost economic production, raise markedly the living standards of the people and demonstrate the superiority and viability of the socialist economy in a bid to vindicate the superb art of leadership as displayed by the successor.

Given this background, the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il must be quick to dismiss any suggestion of such adventurist act as menace to its survival and legitimacy as it is totally counterproductive and consequently counter-revolutionary and anti-Juche.

In examining the motive behind Gen. Chon Du Hwan in launching such terrorist incident, it may be highly interesting and revealing to recall the four assassination attempts on the life of the late Pak Jung Hi and that of Gen. Chon. Given the discipline of north Korean commandos and their unquestioning loyalty to President Kim Il Sung, it is quite incredible that all the four assassination attempts "failed" to kill the two dictators, if they had been the work of well-trained north Korean soldiers.

(1) In January 1968 allegedly a group of north Korean commados crossed the DMZ and managed to enter Seoul, only to be repelled and killed near the blue house.

(2) In August, 1974 a young Korean resident of Osaka under the Mindan (the Association of "ROK" Residents in Japan) gunned down the wife of the then dictator addressing a rally in Seoul celebrating the 29th anniversary of the liberation from Japan.

(3) In February 1982 a plot of south Korean residents–who had been to Pyongyang–to kill Chon Du Hwan during his visit to Canada was allegedly uncovered.

(4) In October, 1983 a Rangoon bombing killed 17 top-placed south Korean officials and allegedly north Korean terrorists were arrested who in turn confessed "their crimes."

Each assassination attempt missed the alleged key target–Park and Gen. Chon. Why? Did God protect the hated despot? If the north Koreans had done, both must undoubtedly have been wiped out. Because the attempts had been their own making, they were able to survive and use the incidents to silence public criticisms of their policy behavior and tide over the crisis and at the same time discredit Pyongyang. This is the most likely answer to the riddle why the two dictators managed to escape death.

The Times of London wrote in its October 12 editorial:

"President Chun has had no hesitation in blaming the bombing on north Korea.

"The bombing incident will reinforce the strident anti-communism of the government in south Korea and will probably lead to a further tightening of political control."

The Far Eastern Economic Review wrote in its October 20 edition:

"Politically, Chun has capitalized on the tragedy in Burma to consolidate the country behind his leadership, focusing people's minds on the alleged role of north Korea. Political, social and business organizations are buying newspaper advertisements, apparently at official request, to call on the people unite in coping with the crisis."

The Washington Post in its bylined story from Seoul observed on December 1:

". . . . . interviews with many Koreans and foreign observers in recent months suggest that his (Chun's) personal support is shallow. They cite as reasons the continuing suppression of dissent, a series of financial scandals that they have touched his personal family and officials in his government and Chun's own staff and often autocratic behavior.

"One foreign diplomat summed it up more succinctly. 'Chun is out of the military, and he has never had legitimacy. He has not won popularity. He has no real followers. He is not a political leader.'

"Several months ago, a high government official who is now dead conceded that the manner in which Chun took power is his heaviest liability."

These Anglo-British press comments indicate the standing of the south Korean dictator is at zero levels within the local population and within even his own inner circle as illegitimate and out of touch with the reality.

They all agree that the Rangoon bombing is a major boon to the strongman Chun who is struggling to wriggle out of the crisis, political, economic and social.

Discrediting Pyongyang and Discouraging Reunification Sentiments

A fundamental mission to Gen. Chon Du Hwan is to discredit Pyongyang and convince the south Korean people that it is futile and senseless to seek for reunification with the north and lead the world public to believe that Pyongyang should be kept out of international life.

Herein lies the value of Gen. Chon or any one of his future replacements to the American policy planners. Poor performance of this main mission results in loss of favor with the Americans, as south Korean must remain a permanent American military stronghold on the Asian continent. Of the world's many regions trapped in American global strategy, south Korea is the only continental place adjacent to the Soviet Union and located next to Japan, the only place where American face no collective anti-American military block like the Warsaw pact alliance.

This importance of south Korea is the much greater in view of the growing status of the United States as a Pacific power with trade with Asian and pacific countries outpacing that with Western Europe. The United States has principal trade partners in Asia. To the American eyes, the security of south Korea is vital to that of the United States and to that of Japan.

The reunification of Korea is therefore viewed with hatred by the Americans, the south Koreans and the Japanese. There are currently two approaches being pursued: one is military and the other diplomatic and political. The military option is to continue the American military and nuclear presence in south Korea and thereby physically prevent any move toward the north-south reunification. The diplomatic and political course is partly to discredit the government of President Kim Il Sung and Mr. Kim Jong Il and portray it as Korean and discourage the south Korean people's sentiments for reunification and democracy.

This explains well the background against which both Gen. Pak and Gen. Chun seized power and crushed the mounting movement toward reunification. As a matter of course, had not both Pak and Chun nor their replacements seized power, to let democrats rise to power following the overthrow of their respective predecessors, democracy might have long been in place and reunification would have become a full-blown reality.

In the international arena, Pyongyang's diplomatic conduct has been impressive near the point of outnumbering south Korea in the number of countries with which diplomatic relations have been set up. In the non-aligned and Third World countries, the position of the DPRK has been unchallenged, while Seoul has been repeatedly refused membership by the non-aligned movement. Even in the Western countries, Pyongyang's diplomats are found active in cultivating friendly ties.

Partly because of its own worst human rights records, partly because of the Kwangju massacre, partly because of a worldwide perception of south Korea as a client of the United States, partly because of its snowballing foreign debts and partly because of its political instability, south Korea has been a sort of an odd man out in the international community. Koreagate and the Unification Church have added to the dishonor of south Korea.

Last year, the much-publicized geneal assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union hosted by Seoul turned out, by reasons because of a massive boycott of socialist countries and non-aligned countries. For the moment, the Asian Games and the Olympic Games, both planned to be hosted by Seoul, too, have prospects of drawing wide participation.

Gen. Chun was without any diplomatic and political success prior to the October Rangoon bombing which greatly served to help him to rally again and prepare for the arrival of Reagan in Seoul. The assassination of the opposition leader Aquino forced the cancellation of President Reagan's visit to Manila and boomeranged. With one of his faithful Gen. Chon surviving the so-called tragic bombing incident, Reagan expected to get TV and mass media attention as he was comforting the tragedy-stricken south Korean people. Contrast to the Aquino assassination, Chun blamed the north for the incident and focused public attention on the tarnished image of Pyongyang, thus winning public sympathy.

A key component of the Rangoon bombing plan was to discredit Mr. Kim Jong Il by launching a first-strike in propaganda warfare and estrange the public from him. The DPRK without any capable successor to President Kim Il Sung or even with his successor discredited will be in the best security interests of the United States and south Korea.

Such effective discrediting of Pyongyang would justify the American refusal to talk with the DPRK government on concluding a peace agreement to replace the present precarious truce which has become 30 years old. In terms of logic and acceptability, the DPRK overtures for peace are highly embarrassing to the American policy planners and in particular so to the south Korean client rulers.

Because of the worldwide concern over nuclear holocaust, the issue of preventing the renewal hostilities has received ever greater public attention, giving momentum to the proposal of the DPRK to negotiate peace with the United States.

At the same time, the bi-system confederal reunification program advanced by President Kim Il Sung and advertised by Mr. Kim Jong Il has won international support as a workable and reasonable reunification solution. This non-boat reunification propoal to achieve the divided country's territorial reintegration with foreign interests kept in south Korea has proved to be totally disarming to the south Koreans and the Americans.

Even Mr. Kim Yong Sam and Mr. Kim Dae Jung have voiced support for such approach. Support for a bi-system confederal reunification has become a tenet among the underground south Korean dissident forces. The situation has been alarming to Gen. Chon Du Hwan and the U.S. There must be a way to discredit Pyongyang effectively and rationalize the "two-Korea" policy.

Zero-Level Popularity and Illegitimacy as Leader

Unlike the late Syngman Rhee and the late Pak Jung Ji who established some levels of popularity, Gen. Chun has failed to achieve legitimacy and popular support, in spite of his desperate campaign to win public approval. The late Syngman Rhee, who was also an American puppet and hated for his authoritarian rule, won certain levels of legimacy and popular endorsement because of his anti-Japanese policy line. As for Pak Jung Hi, he rode the crest of his once-inflated high-growth economic policy and built a facade of prosperity by accumulating huge foreign deficits.

Both Syngman Rhee and Pak Jung Hi did not commit a massacre like Kwangju when they decided to seize power with American support. A series of coups and the Kwangju massacre deprived Gen. Chon of the chances of winning legitimacy.

Dormant anti-Americanism which was kept under control during the periods of the now dead two dictators came to the fore and is in the process of growing. American cultural centers were set on fire on a number of occasions and underground leaflets circulated calling for death on Americans.

Anti-Americanism is now in style among the south Korean college students carrying on the drive for reunification and democracy. Their anti-Americanism is now being shared by an increasing number of former opposition leaders.

Live fever came in April two years ago when an American cultural center incendiaries were defended by Christian leaders. The south Korean Christian Action Organization issued on April 15, 1982 a statement defending the act of two Christian students who set fire to the American cultural center in Pusan in protest to the American role in the Kwangju massacre.

According to The Asian Wall Street Journal dated Decmeber 8, at least 202 student protests took place in south Korea in the first 11 months of 1983, compared with 104 in the whole of 1982. The paper reported 321 students were prosecuted in the same period, while the figure for 1982 was 183. These figures were described as reliable by Western diplomats, the same American paper noted.

Another statistics revealed that as of June 4 last year a total of 46 student actions were reported from 20 universities across south Korea. A one-month period of September saw anti-American student actions at 12 universities. At least 15 universities became scenes of anti-Reagan protests from a period from Nov. 1 to 11 prior to his visit to Seoul.

In the area of economic performance, the record is discouraging with the total foreign debts in the $42 billion range, short-term loans accounting for more than half of the figure.

An increasing number of American and Japanese companies have withdrawn from south Korea on various grounds. Among them are Gulf Oil Corporation and Dow Chemical. More recently, Union Oil Corporation decided on November 16 to withdraw from south Korea, Japan's leading financial daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported on November 17.

According to sources close to the Japanese embassy in Seoul, the newspaper said, "a total of 600 joint ventures have been created in south Korea with Japanese and the south Koreans since the conclusion of the bilateral diplomatic relations between the two countries. Of them, however, as many as 400 have been pulled out with investments withdrawn to Japan."

Financial scandals involving the family of Gen. Chon and major banks have broke, rocking the economic community, dealing telling blows to the already nill prestige of the dictator.

In this context, criticism of the behavior of Gen. Chon surfaced within the inner circle of power, most probably foreign minister Li Bom Sok and presidential chief of staff Ham Byong Chun leading the attack on Chun. Reports reaching Tokyo from Seoul suggest that Li Bom Sok had been unhappy with the way Gen. Chon had been conducting policy. He had widely been tipped to be a strong favorite to take over the dictator in case of his removal or resignation.

The high-government official, now dead, at the time of December, which the Washington Post quoted as saying Chun's way of seizing power was his heaviest liability might be likely foreign minister Li who was killed in the Rangoon bombing.

Herein came the extraordinary sense of crisis on the part of Gen. Chon to divert public criticism and eliminate his own potential foes within his inner circle of power, ingniting the anti-communism within the north for anti-communist purposes–killing three birds with a single stone.

Otherwise having no reason to justify the plan to take almost all top-ranking "government" officials with him on his tour to Rangoon, Chun had them assemble in line in the Aung San Mausoleum instead of waiting for him inside outside the national shrine. The dictator ignored all criticism of his plan to take all the top policy-makers to accompany him.

This love existed for them, an eloquent fact which explains the failure of the strongman to turn up at the mausoleum even after his associates were killed or wounded and why he left alone for Seoul.

A question arising here is whether the decimation of the high-ranking officials adversely affected the functioning and running of the south Korean junta. An interesting report was made by the The Asian Wall Street Journal on October 11.

It noted: "Mr. Chun has a wealth of talent from which to choose replacements for Messrs. Kim, Suh and the others killed in the bombing. He probably will select replacements from among active or semi-retired government officials. 'For every job, they've got 10 men,' another Western diplomat said."

This is the very reason why Gen. Chun decided to wipe out all those political foes.

(To be continued)

What S. Koreans Said in 1983: Democracy & Reunification

Despite Chon Junta's harsh crackdown on the democratic and student movements, south Korean dissident figures and students staged staunch struggles for the restoration of democracy and the reunification.

Kim Yong Sam's hunger strike, Kim Dae Jung's activities in the United States and continued demonstrations by the students drew attention.

Especially, anti-American sentiments grew stronger as dramatized by the bomb blast at an American Cultural Center in Taegu.

Here are what south Korean democratic figures and an American said in 1983:

S. Korea Has to Become Democracy:

Q. *Is the human-rights situation under "president" Chun Doo Hwan better or worse than under "president" Park?*

A. It is worse. The instances and severity of torture of political prisoners have increased. The restrictions on press freedom are much more severe. The right of labor to organize itself and make legitimate protests has been sharply curtailed. Oppressive measures against and surveillance of students and faculty members have been strengthened. There are also some positive changes – but they are superficial, cosmetic changes that serve to hide the structural repression. Students, for example, are again allowed to grow their hair long, and they no longer have to wear uniforms.

Q. *Has America's image significantly worsened among the south Korean people as a result of President Reagan's reduced emphasis on human rights?*

A. The deterioration of the image already started under President Carter. General Chun's coup was staged while Carter was still in office. The American government had firmly promised to support our people's desire for democracy after "president" Park's assassination. But it did nothing. It kept silent while Korean troops massacred hundreds of people. Even the American military commander, who has the Korean troops under his control, didn't move to stop the massacre. We were very dissatisfied with the attitude. Under Reagan, our disappointment with American policy has increased even more.

Q. *You ardently support reunification of north and south Korea. How do you think it can be brought about?*

A. First, south Korea has to become a democracy. Only when it has a government that can obtain the people's full support will North Korea view it as a strong partner. It will then be easier for south Korea to get the North to negotiate.

– Kim Dae Jung, in his interview with Newsweek, Jan. 31, 1983 –

N-S Reunification A Must

AWSJ: How do you view the human rights situation here now?

Mr. Moon: It seems to me that the area of freedom of activity is much more restricted than before.

AWSJ: Could you be specific?

Mr. Moon: All the articles in the emergency decrees during the Park regime are in the standing law now. Freedom of the press is much more restricted than before. I don't have to elaborate on that. Labor law is much more strict. About assembly, now the police can come into any meeting and stop it.

AWSJ: Short of unification, what do you advocate to improve things?

Mr. Moon: I've stopped asking the question: Is unification possible? It's a must. All we have to do is work for that, having faith in God. Here, we'll just keep on struggling for human rights, for freedom of the press, for welfare of laborers and farmers.

AWSJ: How do you view the role of the United States in this country?

Mr. Moon: I'm very, very sad. In 1978, I told [a foreign reporter] if America doesn't change its present course, Korea will go anti-American. And that happened in two years.

AWSJ: What do you mean?

Mr. Moon: America should be much more concerned about democracy and human rights in Korea.

AWSJ: What do you think about recent political developments here such as the partial lifting of a ban on political activity by former public figures?

Mr. Moon: No meaning. No meaning whatsoever. It's just window dressing, that's all. I think that until the government allows the freedom of the press again, there'll be no sign of improvement. There used to be (under Park) two leading journals in Korea in which intellectuals could address themselves but now they are banned. The newspapers are all the same. There's no use in reading any newspaper.

– The Rev. Moon Ik Hwan, in his interview with the Asian Wall Street Journal, March 8, 1983 –

Chon Is Worse than Rhee and Pak

Human rights have never been so violated in Korea as they are today. There is, in fact, no comparison between the Chun Doo Hwan regime of today and the Rhee Syngman regime of 1948 to 1960.

During the Park Chung Hee era, the protection of human rights deteriorated sharply. Park unleashed a monster, the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, and infiltrated the politics of fear and terror. Park also regimented the Korean people to establish a totalitarian state. In spite of all this, however, the human rights situation was better than it is today.

Since General Chun Doo Hwan seized power, as many as 700 journalists have been forced to retire simply because they demanded freedom of the press. At least one hundred scholars have been expelled for political reasons. It is estimated that each college campus has been infiltrated by 100 to 200 plainclothed policemen. A new regulation stipulates that each year 30 percent of college students must be dismissed from school. The number of political prisoners has nearly doubled and punishment has become much harsher than before. Labor union membership has plunged; dozens of active unions have been destroyed.

– Kim Dae Jung, in his speech at Emory University, March 30, 1983 –

"Threat from North" Pol. Measure to Prolong Dictatorships' Rule

But Mr. Kim didn't tone down his criticism of the "government". He retorted that the "government" must meet the demands he made when he started the hunger strike. At that time he called for press freedom, direct election of the president, a legislature with teeth and a new democratic constitution. If Mr. Chun doesn't implement the demands, that will show "the current government" intends to prolong its dictatorial violence for a long time," he said.

He said that when south Korean "governments" face political hardships, they repeat warnings about the military threat from north Korea. "This is a typical political measure of dictatorships to prolong their rule," he said.

"To achieve freedom and human rights, we (including banned politicians and journalists) should be prepared to sacrifice our lives. The current 'government' must stop perpetrating violence and become a moral political power."

– Kim Yong Sam, the Asian Wall Street Journal, July 1-2, 1983 –

Only Democracy Can Save This Nation

Only democracy can save this nation from the current crisis. Only with democracy is firmly established can we take steps toward unifying the divided nation. If the union of separated families is going to end up not in sorrow but in joy, we have to hurry toward unification by restoring democracy.

Tragedies are occurring in great numbers even at this very moment because the government has been fabricating cases against people and charging them with Communism thus causing the separation of husbands from wives and sons from fathers. Tragic phenomena of these sorts can be witnessed in courtrooms and prisons.

The establishment of a democratic government is the only way to build an economy in which farmers and workers will not be left out and will not be suppressed. Only a democratic government will eliminate the animosity and division between the haves and the have-nots. Only a democratic government can enable students, workers, and farmers to press for their rights as respectable groups with distinct identities.

Only the restoration of democracy can enable us to restore our dignity and prestige as a nation in the international community. An unjust and immoral regime not only is looked down upon but also commits evil and criminal deeds. The continuing scandal surrounding the import of rice is proof of this.

The Korean people had their image severely tarnished in the international community by a series of shameful acts perpetrated by the *Yushin* system. The commission of disgraceful acts proves conclusively the inherently dictatorial nature of the *Yushin* system.

Only the restoration of democracy can eradicate the imbalance and foul emotion prevalent in our society. Only the restoration of democracy can give birth to harmonious politics and a loving society. Only the restoration of democracy can rectify the educational system that has become inhuman in nature. Democracy alone can terminate the practice of barbaric torture. Only the restoration of democracy can relieve the pain suffered by all those who worked to defend freedom, justice, truth, and conscience. It can enable us to retrieve our suppressed words and talk like humans again.

The primary task of our democratic struggle is the release of all political prisoners and the restoration of their rights. Suspended students and fired professors must be reinstated. Journalists must be given back the jobs from which they were fired during and since the *Yushin* period. News agencies, which were forcibly shut down, must be reopened. The media must have its autonomy restored. Citizens and currently banned politicians must be allowed to participate freely in politics. Finally, we strive to revise or repeal all dictatorial legislation enacted since the *Yushin* period. All anti-democratic laws adopted by the so-called Legislative Council of National Security must be repealed. A national government run by the people must be formed. The constitution must be amended according to national consensus. Although today's reality appears rather bleak because we are chained by the dictatorship, if the majority of the people can be united in their purpose and struggle with dedication for democracy, we can attain the restoration of democracy. God's justice and the conscience of the world are on our side. History and truth are also on our side.

At this juncture, it is not the repression of the dictatorship which we should fear. Rather, it is the abandonment of hope for democracy which we should fear. A nation that has no dream is an unfortunate nation. We should remain united in our hope for, and conviction in, democracy. If we can be one based on our commitment to democracy and unite on the basis of our hope for democracy, we will be able to erect in Korea a civilian government that has been built with our own hands. Repression will be eliminated, and all of us will lead renewed and meaningful lives as democratic citizens. We will then become the recipients of accolades and respect by world citizens. This is the only way to continue the struggle for national liberation and independence within the context of today's reality. Successful completion of this struggle is to face up to the challenge of our times.

– Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam, in their joint declaration in commemoration of 38th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan, Aug. 15, 1983 –

Need for Redirection Of U.S. Policy Toward Korea

The ugly events involving south Korea – the downing of its airliner; the Rangoon bombing, which killed 20 people, including four south Korean Cabinet ministers – fit a pattern we have almost come to accept as par for the course for the divided peninsula.

In the past decade alone, there have been many outrages: a tree-cutting incident in the demilitarized zone in which two G.I.'s were brutally hacked to death (1976); the Korean Central Intelligence Agency plot to kidnap and assassinate the opposition leader Kim Dae Jung (1973); the assassination of President Park Chung Hee's wife (1974), then the murder of Mr. Park (1979); the rebellion and massacre at Kwangju (1980); now the apparent attempt to kill Seoul's current despot, President Chun Doo Hwan, in isolated Burma.

Whenever an incident occurs, before the evidence is in, south Korean generals angrily point to the North, and adrenaline flows. Seoul fabricates huge demonstrations of public indignation; tension builds along the DMZ; both sides, including our military forces in Korea, go on alert; Washington warns Pyongyang and publicly reiterates a treaty commitment to stand by Seoul. Increased military aid floods out of Congress and the Pentagon, and the arms race on the peninsula escalates another notch.

The South ..... invokes the "threat from the North" to justify increased military outlays, severely limited public participation in the political process, press censorship, restrictions on unions and the right to strike.

President Reagan's proposed visit to Seoul is no more an answer there than it would have been for Manila. In the last 25 years, four American Presidents have visited Seoul and two south Korean Presidents have come to Washington – with no visible impact on relations between North and South. Nor will Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger's attendance at Seoul memorial services for the Rangoon victims have anything but cosmetic value.

We must begin with a redirection of policy toward the peninsula. Admittedly, our leverage with North Korea is negligible. Other than a more imaginative effort toward drawing Pyongyang into the community of nations, there remains little we can offer. But small steps would be useful. Increased scientific, press and cultural contact, especially dealings in international conferences, might help. Restricting North Korea's United Nations observer delegation to travel in New York City hardly serves the aims of modern diplomacy.

– Donald L. Ranard, in his contribution to the New York Times, Oct. 14, 1983 –

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